







## Real-Time Regional Gateway (RT-RG)





RT-RG: REAL-TIME REGIONAL GATEWAY



**TOP SECRET STRAP 1** 



### What is RT-RG?

- NSA's Real-Time Regional Gateway (formerly RT-10)
- "RT-RG extends NSA analysis, processing, and exploitation power to tactical users and the national security enterprise enabling SIGINT analytic results to be produced and delivered in a matter of seconds and minutes, not hours and days."
- Suite of integrated analyst applications...
   ...designed & optimised for time-sensitive SIGINT support to tactical military operations
- Multiple instances (Iraq, Afghan, Korea, others), data specific to theatre



## **Applications**

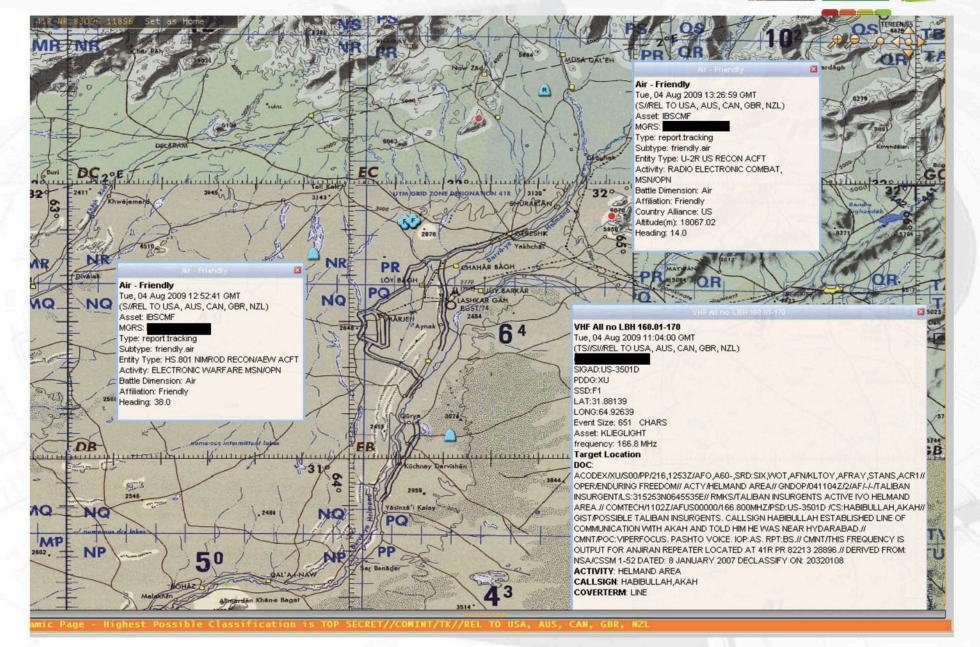
- GOLDMINER: events/geo fusion (GSM + VOICESAIL + VHF/UHF)
  - Managing tracking of multiple targets
  - Follow the targets irrespective of technology
  - Data from 320+ different collectors (strategic, tactical, ground-based, airborne, ...)
  - Limited retention period (IQ 45 days, AF/PK 60 days)
- GEOT: visualisation of events data; integration with mapping / imagery
  - Updates 'pushed' at analysts
- SHARKFINN: target 'enrichment' (CELLEX, gists, tactical questioning)
  - Entity extraction to find new selectors of interest
- Real-Time Alert Manager: does what it says!
- SORTINGLEAD: Pattern of Life / target discovery

#### **TOP SECRET STRAP 1**







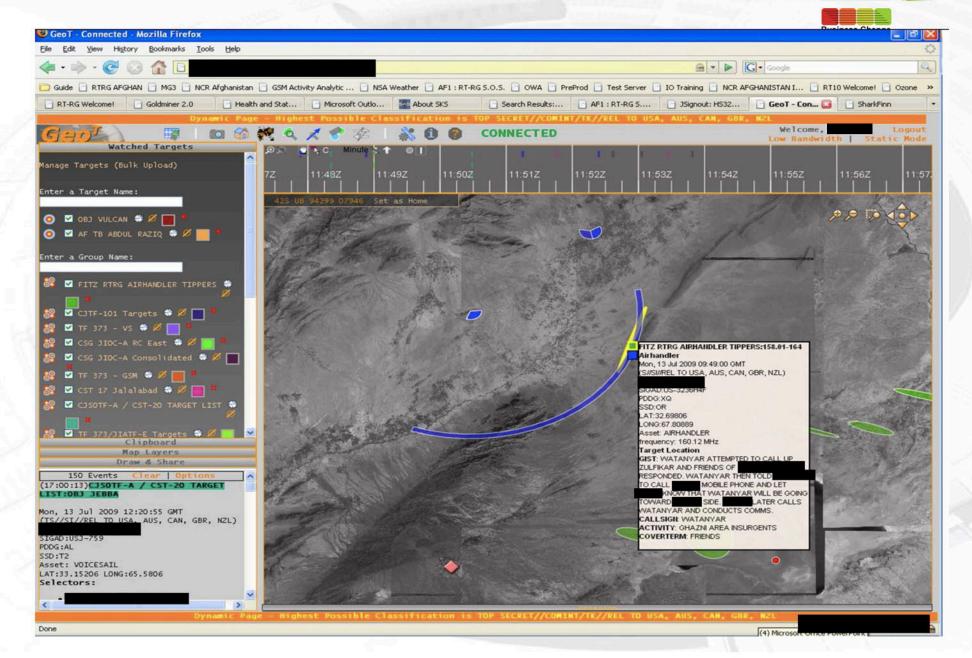


#### **TOP SECRET STRAP 1**





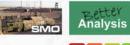






## Why does GCHQ care?

- GCHQ requirements to access RT-RG driven by GREMIO (Afghan, now PK + IN)
- RT-RG solves a major business problem
- Actionable (tactical) SIGINT taking too long to reach military customers
  - Limits GCHQ's impact and effectiveness (force protection, support to SF)
  - Analyst / GCO workload
  - Data 'all over the place' (GCHQ and 2<sup>nd</sup> Party systems)
  - Lots of manual / "cerebral fusion" to answer simple questions (e.g. "is my target using GSM, VOICESAIL, or VHF today?")
  - SMO requires answers in seconds & minutes, not hours & days
- Timely delivery of UK data seen as major UKUSA contribution
  - Some GCHQ events/geo data now delivered in ~5s versus ~15mins









- Faster delivery and presentation of events / geo to the analyst
  - Enables faster provision of actionable SIGINT to military customers
  - Enables optimisation of other SIGINT capabilities (e.g. IMMERGO)
- Analyst effort savings and efficiency
  - 'Push' model & fused data saves time
  - ~60% time and effort saving to deliver 'SIGINT trigger' for an operation
- Access to events/geo data not accessible through other applications
- Early GCHQ buy-in to an NSA roadmap
  - Expansion from OEF (HERRICK) to wider AF/PAK interests (CT interests)
  - Investment in C-IED analysis features
  - Influence RT-RG where it helps us
  - Share GCHQ's smart ideas to enhance RT-RG
  - Ability to implement some RT-RG features in our own systems?



## Some challenges?

- Interactive performance on GCHQ's desktop / web infrastructure
  - Mapping data slow to load
  - GCOs not yet fully benefitting
- Ensuring adequate legal and policy compliance
  - US oversight & auditing
  - HRA
- Analyst skills for understanding and exploiting VHF/UHF data
- Analyst mindset & CONOP
  - Cross-organisational working (HQ, Digby, GCOs)



# So what?! What might RT-RG mean for me?

- Ask yourself...
  - Are RT-RG concepts niche or mainstream?
  - Would I benefit from faster delivery / presentation of events/geo data?
  - Would I benefit from a real-time picture of targets' movements?
  - Could my customers benefit?